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Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1343 (2001) concerning Liberia

Note verbale dated 3 July 2001 from the Permanent Mission of France to the United Nations addressed to the Chairman of the Committee

The Permanent Mission of France to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1343 (2001) concerning Liberia and, in reply to his note of 7 June 2001, has the honour to inform him of the steps taken by France to implement the measures imposed under paragraphs 5 to 7 of resolution 1343, as follows:

1. With regard to the embargo on exports of arms and related materiel and the provision of technical training related to the provision, manufacture, maintenance or use of such equipment, Council Regulation (EC) No. 1146/2001 of the Council of the European Union, adopted on 11 June 2001 (OJEU L156/1 of 13 June 2001) is directly applicable in France. Moreover, France has a very strict authorization and control system for its arms exports, which are prepared through ongoing interministerial consultation and authorized at the level of the Prime Minister.

2. With regard to the embargo on imports of rough diamonds from Liberia, Council Regulation (EU) No. 1146/2001, referred to above, which also concerns the implementation of the embargo on diamonds, is directly applicable in France. Information from importers must be provided in a notice from the Ministry of the Economy, Finance and Industry (Directorate-General of Customs and Indirect Taxes) and published shortly thereafter in the Official Journal.

3. As to the prohibitions on the entry into or transit through French territory of the persons identified by the Committee pursuant to paragraph 7 of resolution 1343 (2001), the necessary steps were taken to ensure their implementation:

The sanctions committee's list was transmitted to all French consular posts with instructions to deny any visas to such persons. Moreover, the names of the persons inscribed on the list were entered in a special database at the disposal of the French consular network. With regard to Liberian nationals holding diplomatic or service passports, the procedure is slightly different; any visa request submitted by holders of Liberian diplomatic or service passports is subject to consultation with

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the central administration of both the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in France and the Ministry of the Interior.

In general, in order to ensure that these travel bans are implemented as effectively as possible, the Permanent Mission of France would like to stress the importance of having as complete a list as possible, containing, in particular, the birth dates of the persons concerned. Birth dates are, in fact, essential to the functioning of the search mechanism of the special database for the issuance of visas. The name of the person concerned cannot appear during a search of the database if the date of birth is not mentioned.